MOBILITY AND TOURISM PRODUCTS WITHIN LOCAL EMISSIONS OF CO2

AN EXPLORATORY APPROACH BY IMPACTURALGARVE PROJECT TO RENT-A-CAR AND MARITIME-TOURISM ACTIVITIES







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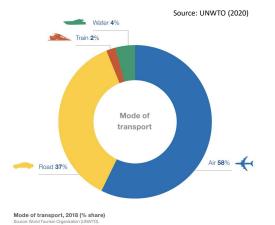
Goal

Consideration 1: Tourist transports are responsible for consuming one third of all final energy in the European Union.

Consideration 2: The local/global approach to sustainability requires an observation of CO2 emissions not only in accessibility to the destination, but also associated with visitor mobility at the destination, and with the consumption of specific destination tourism products.

Means and Purpose of Travel

Travelling for leisure and by air dominates international tourism



Algarve Region [Al Gharb] The West

A S S S

<u>Europe</u>



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Goal

GOAL: Applied to Algarve region, southern Portugal, the study aims to perform a first quantification and analysis on the emission of CO2 in and of-peak peak season by:

- (a) The rent-a-car sector, essential for the mobility of visitors and,
- (b) The maritime-tourism sector, which as a tourism animation activity in the marine environment through tours in vessels on the shoreline and in sheltered waters are a product in increasing development in the region.





Method

The knowledge engagement of the role and responsibilities of tourism in climate change, demands a multiplicity of variables to be interiorized by the combined adoption of quantitative and qualitative methods (mixed).

In this study, quantitative methods are used on the secondary (published) and primary data analysis (questionnaires), both on rent-a-car and on maritime tourism companies, analyzed mostly by measures of descriptive statistics.

The simulation of CO2 emissions (for rent-a-car) uses published and available simulators.

The qualitative methods mainly rely on content analysis techniques, to be applied within focus groups and interviews to managers of both activities, in order to ensure a more comprehensive and open view of quantified reality.



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Findings

In high season Algarve has to circulate approximately 20,000 rent-a-car vehicles.

A replacement of only 3,000 for electric vehicles (approximately 6.7% of the fleet) will result in a potential non-production of carbon dioxide that can reach 4,590 tons/year.

AND, this would be in addition to the benefits in terms of noise mitigation and demonstration effect.





Findings

The almost five hundred (468) of maritime tourism companies operating in the region, essential for the mitigation of seasonality and diversification of tourism products, operate in a territory that in its large majority are under environmental protection status, e.g. Natura 2000 Network.

The decarbonization (not yet quantified) will be a strong impulse to increase the number of companies with recognition as Nature Tourism activity, which currently only covers 14.5% (68) of them.





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Limitations

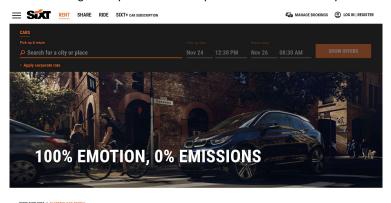
The analysis is focused on Algarve **peak-season data**, so eventual generalizations to other destinations and seasons should be taken care of.

This is an observation on the supply side maritime tourism operators (companies), and demand side of rent-a-car (families), so by now it is not achieved an **integrated view of the market** that includes the consumers' perspective and companies simultaneous perspective.

The lack of knowledge of the miles covered on average and the diversity of vessels used in maritime-tourism activities in the Algarve are, for now, a limitation of resolution still in progress on the quantification of its CO2 emissions.

Pratical Implications

The rent-a-car role in intraregional mobility is a reality that, more than an obstacle to decarbonization, should be seen as an agent of promotion and dissemination of decarbonization, including a demonstration effect that these vehicles in the region may have on the adoption of behavior so well by the resident population.





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Pratical Implications

In the case of **maritime-tourism activities**, decarbonization prepares now companies for future legal burdens, e.g. the mandatory use of electric propulsion engines in vessels to access the **recognition of their activity as Nature Tourism**, and promotes the desired economic growth with less incorporation of resources.





Originality

Despite the variety of actions that have been undertaken by tourism stakeholders worldwide, there is still limited public information on CO2 emissions by tourism businesses and destinations.

Bobes, L. and Becken, S. (2016), Proving the Case: Carbon Reporting in Travel and Tourism, available at: https://amadeus.com/en/insights/research-report/proving-the-case-carbon-reporting-intravel-and-tourism. Last accessed on December 6th 2021.

The integration of climate strategies in tourism policies is low. "The other side of the coin"

World Tourism Organization and United Nations Environment Programme (2019), Baseline Report on the Integration of Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns into Tourism Policies. Madrid: UNWTO, DOI: https://doi.org/10.18111/9789284420605. 74 8.

In the literature there is no consolidated evidence of the simultaneous relationship of rent-a-car and maritime-tourism activities in the sustainability of a destination with the characteristics of the Algarve, in particular the role of both in the climate change local/global framework.

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[7] World Tourism Organization and United Nations Environment Programme (2019), Baseline Report on the Integration of Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns into Tourism Policies. Madrid: UNWTO, DOI: https://doi.org/10.18111/9789284420605.

Thank you